

R E M A R K S

Applicant has carefully considered the above identified Office Action, and in response thereto is addressing each issue raised by the examiner in the remarks hereinbelow. In this regard, applicant is canceling without prejudice claims 8 and 11; and amending claims 7 and 12.

Claim Objections

Applicant has amended claim 12 by replacing the word "mesns" on line 9 with the word "means."

Claim Rejection 35 USC 103(a)

Applicant has amended claim 7 by adding claim 8 thereto, according to the Allowable Subject Matter section. Therefore, claim 7 is now allowable. New claim 18 is claim 11 added to claim 7, which is also allowable according to the Allowable Subject Matter section. All claims dependent on a newly allowable claim are also allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant agrees with examiner that claims 1 - 6 and 12 - 17 are allowable and claims 8 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

C O N C L U S I O N

It is respectfully submitted that applicant has responded in a fully satisfactory manner to all matters at issue in this application, and this application is now in condition for allowance. In this regard, applicant has made every effort to comply with the requirements set forth in this Office Action as well as statutory requirements. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment, allow the claims, and pass this application on to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald J. Ersler
Reg No. 38,753

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Donald J. Ersler
Attorney at Law
725 Garvens Avenue
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005
Phone: (262) 785-0160
Fax: (262) 785-0162